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ARGENTINA

Terrorist groups in Argentina may be planning further abductions of US citizens, following the killing yesterday of the US honorary consul they kidnaped on Wednesday. 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] A press dispatch on Thursday reported that leaflets distributed by the consul's kidnapers stated that their victim was "the first on a long list of servants of imperialism in Argentina" who will have to "render accounts."

The government may have been able to produce one of the four prisoners the guerrillas had demanded to be shown. Two others reportedly were dead, and the third had undergone such harsh treatment during interrogation that authorities did not want to admit holding him.

Shortly after the deadline set by the guerrillas last evening, Foreign Minister Vignes announced that the government would not deal with extremist groups. The official statement came after Vignes and Interior Minister Rocamore met with President Peron to discuss the government's position.

The consul's murder will be an acute embarrassment to Mrs. Peron's government, which recently has been trying to play down the terrorist problem, particularly in discussions with potential foreign investors. 3.5(c)

Yesterday, the terrorists also struck in and around the capital. The chief justice of the Buenos Aires provincial supreme court was kidnaped and, in two separate incidents, three policemen were machine-gunned to death, one terrorist killed, and another wounded in a shootout.

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